

10 reasons to join the fight against for-profit health care

- 1 You are more likely to die in a for-profit hospital or clinic than a not-for-profit facility.
- 2 You and your family may find yourselves without health care when you need it. You may be turned away unless you can pay.
- 3 You'll have to pay out-of-pocket for your health care, through user fees, insurance premiums or co-payments. You may put off medical attention if you have to pay for it – putting your health or that of a loved one at risk.
- 4 You'll likely have to wait longer for treatment, unless you can afford to pay extra.
- 5 You won't be guaranteed acceptable standards of cleanliness and food quality. Support services keep health care facilities safe, clean and free of deadly infections. Cutting corners costs lives.
- 6 You won't be sure the staff delivering care are adequately trained, or fairly treated. High turnover means poor health care.
- 7 You won't be guaranteed coverage for the care you need. If you change or lose your job, or get laid off, you could find yourself without coverage.
- 8 You risk having to sell everything you own and declaring bankruptcy to pay for unexpected medical expenses.

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- 9 You and your union will have to fight for health coverage at the bargaining table. You'll face a cut in your benefits package to make room for health insurance and you'll likely have to trade off demands such as pensions, wages and job security for coverage you now take for granted. If you work in health care, you'll face a cut in wages, benefits and job security.
 - 10 You are part of the front line of defense against privatization and contracting out of **any** part of the health care system. Together, we can defend jobs and services, and ensure every penny of health spending goes to care – not profits.

If you are a health care support worker, your job is on the line. If you are a woman, poor, young, old, have children, if you are a person of colour, have a disability, or if you are in another vulnerable group, you are even more likely to feel the damaging effects of private health care.

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